Introduction of Electronic Clearance System in Banks

1656. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV "RAVI" : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has directed to all the banks to introduce electronic clearance settlement and depository facility;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the extent to which the new Electronic Clearance Settlement and Depository system is likely to provide efficiency in the working of the banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India in their circular dated 17-11-1992 addressed to all scheduled commercial banks and All India financial institutions have indicated, inter-alia, the need to establish an Electronic Clearance Settlement and Depository System (ECSD). The circular was issued following the submission of the Nadkarni Committee Report whose major recommendations were discussed by RBI with the Chief Executives of major commercial banks, All India financial institutions, the Securities and Exchange Board of India and Ministry of Finance. The proposed new system is meant to eliminate deficiencies in the existing procedures for transactions in PSU Bonds and Units and proalternative system for booking of transactions and their accounting and transfer.

Disinvestment of equity of nationalised banks

1657. SHRI ASHIS SEN :

SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to ask nationalised banks to disinvest a part of their equity; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) While presenting the Union Budget for 1993-94, the Finance Minister has stated that Government have decided that State Bank of India as well as other nationalised banks which are in a position to do so will be allowed to access the capital markets to raise fresh equity to meet their shortfall in capital requirements over the next three years. Finance Minister has also stated that Government will continue to retain majority ownership and, therefore, effective control in the public sector banks.

Government Loans to big Business Houses

1658. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of big business houses which have not yet paid their dues towards different Government authorities but have been sanctioned loans by different financial institutions so far in the current financial year;

(b) whether these financial institutions have appointed their nominees on the Boards of these business houses; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and permissible under the rules.

Opening of Insurance Business to Private Sector

1659. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the observations made in the discussion organised by the Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies stating that the insurance business should be thrown open to competition from private sector;